

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In item 2 on page 2 of the office action the examiner notes a minor informality in claim 16 which can be corrected by inserting "one" after "said" and deleting "one" after "more". Applicant has corrected this informality.

The examiner has rejected claims 28-33 and 35 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 8 of U.S. patent no. 6,306,490. The examiner notes in item 3 on page 2 of the office action that a timely filed terminal disclaimer will overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Applicant submits that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection should be withdrawn since an appropriate terminal disclaimer was previously filed with applicant's response dated February 25, 2003. A copy of the aforementioned previously filed terminal disclaimer is enclosed herewith along with a copy of the stamped and dated receipt card which shows that the terminal disclaimer was received by the Patent Office on February 25, 2003, along with payment of the appropriate government fee.

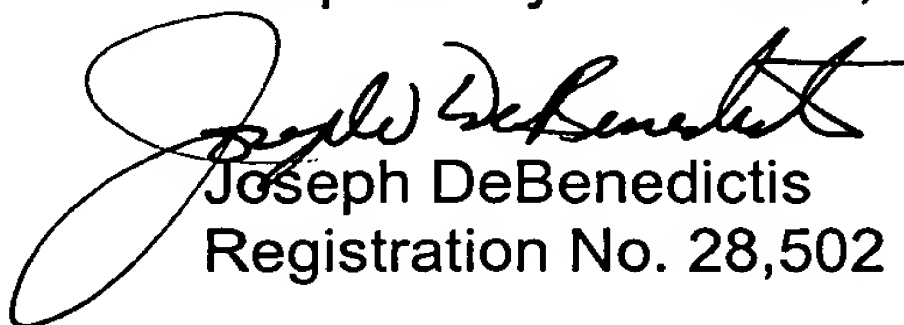
In view of the previously submitted terminal disclaimer, the amendment to claim 16 and the examiner's indication that claims 13, 15, 17-27, 34 and 36 are allowed, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of all the claims which are currently pending in the application.

Date: March 30, 2004

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